

State Agricultural Officials Warn Worcester County Residents About Sick Puppies Being Sold Online

BOSTON – January 12, 2017 – The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) warns consumers about a number of complaints regarding sick puppies being sold through internet advertisements in the Worcester County area.

According to consumer complaints, various breeds of puppies are involved and potential buyers have been asked to meet the seller at parking lots in southern Worcester County. In most instances, contact with the seller was online or via text, and the buyers have been asked to pay cash and promised that the puppy is properly vaccinated. The seller may even provide documentation of the vaccinations.

Unfortunately, some of these puppies have become acutely ill soon after purchase, and some puppies have died despite extensive veterinary care. When the buyers have attempted to contact the seller they have found that the cell phone numbers used to set up the purchases were no longer in service.

MDAR is actively working with the Animal Rescue League of Boston, the Charlton Police Department and the Southbridge Police Department to investigate these complaints.